

CLAIMS

1. A method for commercially growing miniature cranberries comprising applying to cranberry plants a plant-growth-regulating composition during the bloom
5 period in an amount such that the cranberries have a mature mass of less than about 0.75 grams/cranberry.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the applying step is during the mid-bloom
10 period.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein there is a single applying step.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein the composition is applied when about 50-
15 90% of flowers on the plants have opened.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the composition is applied when about 60-
80% of flowers on the plants have opened.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the composition is applied when about 70%
20 of flowers on the plants have opened.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the composition has an active ingredient
which includes gibberellin.
- 25 8. The method of claim 1 wherein a solution including the composition is applied to the plants.
9. The method of claim 8 wherein the solution is an aqueous solution.
- 30 10. The method of claim 8 wherein the composition is a mixture of GA₄ and GA₇.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the concentration of composition within the solution is about 25-350 ppm.

5 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the composition is commercially applied to cranberry plants and the solution has a concentration and is applied in an amount so that about 10-80 grams of active ingredient are effectively applied per acre covered by plants.

10 13. The method of claim 12 wherein about 60-100 gallons of the solution are applied per acre.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein the plants have fruit sets of at least about 80%.

15 15. The method of claim 1 wherein the plants have fruit sets of at least about 90%.

20 16. The method of claim 1 wherein the cranberries have a mature mass of about 0.2-0.6 gram/cranberry.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein the cranberries have a mature mass of about 0.3-0.5 gram/cranberry.

25 18. The method of claim 1 wherein application is by spraying.

19. The method of claim 18 application is by ground-driven application equipment.

30

20. A method of increasing fruit set on cranberry plants comprising commercially applying to the cranberry plants of a plant-growth-regulating composition in an amount and at a time such that the plants have a fruit set of at least about 80%.

5

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the applying step is during the mid-bloom period.

22. The method of claim 20 wherein there is a single applying step.

10

23. The method of claim 21 wherein the composition is applied when about 50-90% of flowers on the plants have opened.

15

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the composition is applied when about 60-80% of flowers on the plants have opened.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the composition is applied when about 70% of flowers on the plants have opened.

20

26. The method of claim 20 wherein the composition has an active ingredient which is gibberellin.

25

27. The method of claim 20 wherein a solution including the composition is applied to the plants.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the solution is an aqueous solution.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein the composition is a mixture of GA₄ and GA₇.

30

30. The method of claim 29 wherein the concentration of composition within the solution is about 25-350 ppm.

31. The method of claim 29 wherein the composition is commercially applied to cranberry plants and the solution has a concentration and is applied in an amount so that about 10-80 grams of active ingredient are effectively applied per acre covered by plants.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein about 60-100 gallons of the solution are applied per acre.

33. The method of claim 20 wherein the plants have fruit sets of at least about 90%.

34. The method of claim 20 wherein cranberries produced by the plants after application of the composition have a mature mass less than about 0.75 grams.

35. The method of claim 20 wherein cranberries have a mature mass of about 0.2-0.6 gram/cranberry.

36. The method of claim 20 wherein cranberries have a mature mass of about 0.3-0.5 gram/cranberry.

37. The method of claim 20 wherein application is by spraying.

38. The method of claim 37 application is by ground-driven application equipment.

39. A yield of miniature cranberries from a cranberry plant wherein substantially all the cranberries have mature masses of less than about 0.75 grams.

40. The yield of claim 39 wherein the majority of the cranberries have mature masses of about 0.2-0.6 grams.

5 41. The yield of claim 39 wherein the majority of the cranberries have mature masses of about 0.3-0.5 grams.

43. The yield of claim 39 wherein the yield results from a fruit set of at least 80%.

10 44. The yield of claim 39 wherein the yield results from a fruit set of at least 90%.

15 45. The yield of claim 39 wherein the yield is produced by applying to the plant a plant-growth-regulating composition during the bloom period of the plant.

46. The yield of claim 45 wherein the yield is produced by applying to the plant a plant-growth-regulating composition when about 50-90% of flowers on the plant have opened.

20 46. The yield of claim 45 wherein the yield is produced by applying to the plant a plant-growth-regulating composition when about 60-80% of flowers on the plant have opened.

25 47. The yield of claim 45 wherein the plant-growth-regulating composition includes an active ingredient which is gibberellin.

48. The yield of claim 45 wherein a solution including the composition is applied to the plant.

30 49. The yield of claim 48 wherein the solution is an aqueous solution.

50. The yield of claim 49 wherein the composition is a mixture of GA₄ and GA₇.

5 51. The yield of claim 48 wherein the composition is commercially applied to cranberry plants and the solution has a concentration and is applied in an amount so that about 10-80 grams of active ingredient are effectively applied per acre covered by plants.

10 53. The yield of claim 52 wherein about 60-100 gallons of the solution are applied per acre.

54. The yield of claim 45 wherein there is a single applying step.